



MARLO NEWS

25
YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
1987-2012

Serving the *Whole* Maritime Community

January 5, 2012

U.S. Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain

Volume 3, Issue 1

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What We Do:

Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain facilitates the exchange of information between the U.S. Navy, the Combined Maritime Forces and the full spectrum of the commercial shipping and maritime industry.



Todd Offutt, Commander, U.S. Coast Guard New Officer-in-Charge (OIC)

Following the dutiful service of my predecessor, Captain Michael Lodge, I am delighted—along with our dedicated team of Liaison Officers whose responsibilities and travels extends to more than 24 countries throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility (and worldwide)—to ensure the commercial maritime community operating in the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Gulf receive personalized and comprehensive information from the U.S. Navy and Combined Maritime Forces. Since August, I've flown over 15,000 miles to Europe, the Middle East, and Asia to meet our partners, clients and stakeholders. In 2011, our team flew more than 82,000 miles visiting clients and stakeholders throughout the region and around the world. That's enough miles to stretch around the globe more than three times. *(continued on Page 3)*

Annual Event in Dubai, 30 JAN 2012



Our seminar will be held in Dubai, UAE at Raffles Hotel. The cost of the catered event is underwritten by MARLO. Rear Admiral Gaouette, Deputy Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, will present the keynote address as we mark the start of an exciting year and our historic **25th Anniversary**. Ensuing presentations by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the U.S. Coast Guard, special guests, and the maritime community will address aspects of crisis management during all manner of maritime emergencies; factors if/when selecting a security team; interaction between the ship's master and embarked teams; kidnap and ransom negotiation; and handling media and family. The prestigious U.S. Naval Postgraduate School will also present an innovative Web-Based Approach to addressing piracy. Events will be preceded and followed by a welcome reception and an evening reception. *(continued on Page 3)*

Findings from Pirated Vessels:



Onboard investigations of pirated ships following their release, interviews of crewmembers, and interviews of incarcerated pirates, revealed a sometimes harrowing account of life aboard a pirated ship. Nonetheless, these lessons learned have now been distilled for the benefit of ship owners, vessel operators and company security officers. For your copy, e-mail your request to MARLO at marlo.bahrain@me.navy.mil.

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Post-Release Investigations of Pirated Vessels:

As the U.S. Navy's representative to the commercial maritime industry, MARLO Bahrain serves as an interface between the Naval Criminal Investigate Service (NCIS) and the maritime community.

MARLO coordinates NCIS debriefings of crew-members, evidentiary collection from recently released pirated vessels, and provides analytical assessments of NCIS findings.

Did You Know:

MARLO Liaison Officers have more than 200 years of combined experience in their military and civilian careers, spanning a diverse array of maritime (and non-maritime) experiences on more than six continents.

Partner Agencies for Implementing Best Practices (per BMP4):

UKMTO

ukmto@eim.ae

- 1) *Receives initial reports from ships entering the Voluntary Reporting Area;*
 - 2) *Receives daily reports of ships operating in the High Risk Area, and*
 - 3) *Serves as point of contact during Pirate Attacks.*
- (See **Annex B** of BMP4)

MSC HOA

www.mschoa.eu

Part of the EU Naval Force, MSC HOA receives "Vessel Movement Registration Forms" PRIOR to entering the High Risk Area.
(See **Annex E** of BMP4)

Weekly Bulletins to Restart January 2012

Effective mid-January 2012, MARLO will begin distributing weekly comprehensive reviews of recent Somali piracy incidents and an outlook on threats around the Horn of Africa. These will include information on threats to, and criminal action against, merchant vessels worldwide in the last 30 days.

Convoy Schedules Posted, Jan thru March 2012

On the MARLO Website at <http://www.cusnc.navy.mil/marlo/guidance.html>. Click on the link posted under "Guidance Documents."

MARLO Visits Singapore ISC



In December 2011, the MARLO OIC visited the RECAAP Information Sharing Center (ISC) in Singapore where he met with senior officials to discuss regional collaboration. RECAAP, the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, signed an MOU in November 2011 with other ISCs created under the IMO-led Djibouti Code of Conduct to establish operating procedures to exchange piracy-related information. The effort should result in a significant expansion of the reporting area of such incidents.

Afterwards, the OIC visited the Changi Command and Control Center, which houses the Singapore Maritime Security Center (SMSC), an Information Fusion Center (IFC), and a Multinational Operations and Exercise Center (MOEC). The Center works to advance multi-agency cooperation and interoperability amongst national maritime agencies to enhance Singapore's maritime security capabilities. The Center also fosters international cooperation to promote maritime security in the region.

During the visit, the OIC also spoke at the 8th Annual Coastal Surveillance Conference workshop where he met one-on-one with commercial shippers.

Magazine to Feature Piracy (Desk Reference)



Sign Up Today!

Maritime piracy is a violent criminal enterprise that operates on a distinct business model. The safety and security of vessels and crews depends on the disruption of that model.

The April 2012 issue of Proceedings contains articles spanning the full spectrum of activities to deter, prevent, respond to, prosecute, and recover from pirate attacks. The U.S. Government is committed to deterring, disrupting, and suppressing piracy through prevention measures, response procedures, and the prosecution of pirates in a court of justice.

FREE Subscription at: <http://www.uscg.mil/proceedings/>

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Your Question: Who are the "Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)?"



CMF includes roughly three dozen ships from Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Pakistan, Canada, Denmark, Turkey, the U.S. and U.K., as well as other naval forces and personnel from several other nations.

Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) patrol more than 2.5 million square miles of international waters to increase the security and prosperity of the region.

CMF is working to defeat terrorism, prevent piracy, reduce illegal trafficking of people and drugs, and promote the maritime environment as a safe place for mariners with legitimate business.

CMF:

- 1) counters violent extremism and terrorist networks in maritime areas of responsibility;
- 2) works with regional and other partners to improve overall security and stability;
- 3) helps strengthen regional nations' maritime capabilities and,
- 4) when requested, responds to environmental and humanitarian crises.

Exercise in April Tests Civil-Military Response

Exercise "Lucky Mariner," a U.S. Navy, joint force, coalition and commercial shipping exercise in the Middle East, will test and evaluate a civil-military response to a global shipping threat in April 2012.

The exercise will flex the mobilization and expeditionary nature of NCAGS Detachment Charlie, reserve officers from the Strategic Sealift Officer and Selected Reserve (SELRES) programs, and the establishment of an Expeditionary Shipping Control Center (ESCC), Shipping Control Team (SCT), and Liaison Officer's command and control. MARLO, UKMTO, the U.S. Maritime Administration, NCAGS and the commercial shipping industry will integrate and execute crisis response plans within the scenario to strengthen civil-military cooperation and response.

(from Pg. 1) MARLO Dubai Seminar, cont.

Please note, while this invitation is extended to all members of the shipping and maritime community, we can only confirm attendance for roughly 100 respondents due to logistical limitations, the no-cost nature of the event, and the desire to shape the nature of discussions among principal invitees across many sectors of the maritime community. To ensure timely notifications, please respond to this email **NO LATER THAN 10 JANUARY 2012**. If you did not receive an earlier invitation, please e-mail registrationrequest@yahoo.com. Then, once your attendance is confirmed, you will receive additional information on making hotel reservations at Raffles in Dubai.

Even if you are unable to attend, MARLO is here to assist should you experience any issues whether with piracy, the environment, safety of life at seas (SOLAS), maritime security, vessel boardings, etc. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or concerns. Our Liaison Officers stand ready to brief you on MARLO services, personalized maritime updates, and/or follow-on meetings at **NO COST** to you.

(from Pg. 1) OIC Remarks, cont.

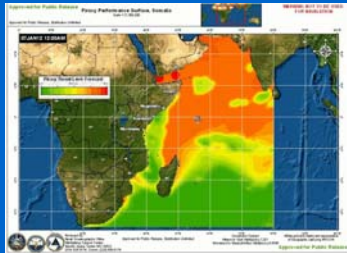
For more than two decades, I have served as a commercial ship and vessel inspector, investigating officer (for marine accidents), maritime contingency planner, vessel and waterfront facility security inspector, in port operations, and as license examiner (for maritime credentials). Coupled with experiences in search and rescue, migrant smuggling, pollution spill response, drug interdiction, icebreaking (though not too much in the Gulf), waterways management, aids to navigation, and policy making, the MARLO office is poised to serve your diverse interests in the maritime realm.

I am especially delighted to be at the helm of MARLO as it celebrates 25 years of service. Through the years, and each successive crisis, MARLO has been here.

Since my arrival, I have had the occasion and opportunity to attend various meetings throughout the region. I am especially appreciative and thankful for the cooperative support from all corners of the maritime community, including ship owners/operators, masters and agents, port officials and other government entities. There are substantial risks to shipping and the operation of ports and facilities in this region. Though piracy

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Sneak Peek of our Weekly Bulletins (see article on Pg. 2):



MARLO was created in 1987, during the Iran-Iraq "Tanker Wars," to promote cooperation between the U.S. Navy and the commercial maritime community.



At the time, petroleum and cargo vessels of neutral nations were being indiscriminately attacked in the Arabian Gulf. The U.S. Navy initiated a convoy system with escorts in order to avert further loss of life and property, and created MARLO as a mechanism to communicate with and assist the commercial maritime community.

Did You Know:

In 2011, MARLO Liaison Officers flew more than 82,000 miles visiting clients and stakeholders throughout the region and around the world—all at NO COST to our clients.

That's enough miles to stretch around the globe nearly three and a half times. Now that's a lot of peanuts and tea!

and terrorism are the current watchwords, they are not MARLO's exclusive focus. Our aim is to grow the vital Crisis Management competency for everyone in the industry, which enhances our ability to come together regardless of the threat—be it a natural disaster, environmental disaster, search and rescue (especially where large numbers of people are involved), impediment to safe navigation (waterway closure) or the like. These outcomes may or may not be the result of criminal, terrorist, or rogue elements, but the net effect is the same. Our ability to respond to the crisis will propel our collective success over the next 25 years.

This month, we will begin providing weekly assessments of the ongoing piracy situation to provide a comprehensive picture to our clients. Based on your feedback, we will revise these offerings to meet your needs. I look forward to meeting you as I continue my visits throughout the region over the coming years, and at our [annual conference in Dubai later this month](#). In the meantime, I encourage you to contact us by phone or e-mail. Thank you for your continued support, feedback, and ideas.

-- Todd Offutt, US Coast Guard --

Biography:

Commander Offutt previously served as the Chief of External Coordination for the Office of Budget & Programs at CG Headquarters (CGHQ) where he oversaw reports and responses to U.S. Congress, the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General, and the Government Accountability Office on search and rescue, maritime safety and security, migrant interdiction, environmental response, national defense, and all manner of operational and support issues. In 2010, during the historic response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico, he served as Chief of Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs to the National Incident Commander.

Earlier assignments include Commander of Base San Juan, Puerto Rico. At Sector Honolulu, Hawaii, he served as Senior Investigating Officer, Public Affairs Officer, and Chief of Contingency Planning for two major marine casualties and numerous other incidents. Other assignments include speechwriter to the Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety and Security; Chief of Port Safety and Security in Baltimore, Maryland; Assistant Chief of CG Port Operations in Morgan City, Louisiana, and Commercial Marine Inspector in New Orleans, Louisiana. He also completed the Industry Training Program at the Port of Baltimore. CDR Offutt is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College, and possesses graduate degrees in Management and National Security.

MARLO & Sister Unit MARLUs Span the Globe



MARLO facilitates the exchange of information between the U.S. Navy, the Combined Maritime Forces, and the commercial maritime community. MARLO acts as a conduit for information to promote the safety and security of shipping and is committed to assisting all members of the commercial maritime community. MARLO Liaison Officers travel regularly throughout the Middle East region to foster communication, stay apprised of changes in local port infrastructure and management, and proactively address concerns and questions raised by maritime industry members. MARLO has sister-offices, Maritime Liaison Units (MARLUs), located in Japan, Singapore, Italy, and the United States to render assistance on a global scale. MARLO also partners with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) to interview merchant mariner crews following the release of a pirated vessel.

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